DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Street, Sacramento, CA 330

June 7, 1982



TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: BENEFIT PAYMENT ISSUANCE SURVEY

REFERENCE:

The Statistical Services Branch has completed the February 1982 Benefit Payment Issuance Survey. Because of the nature of this survey, a publication will not be issued; however, for your information, a copy of highlights from the survey is attached.

This data will be of help to the State Controller's Office and SPAN in the planning for statewide payment issuance and delivery under the SPAN fiscal system.

Although the data collected is considered to be good as a whole, some qualifiers need to be noted.

- Because February was the study month, data may differ in months which have more working days.
- Because some counties answered "unknown", or "unable to break out" on the "other specify" lines, the results may have changed if the answers were available.

We would like to thank the counties for their cooperation in completing this survey. If you have further questions regarding the data collected, please contact Statistical Services Branch at (916) 322-5462.

Sincerely,

JAMES H. GOMEZ Deputy Director Administration

Attachment

cc: CWDA ·

GEN 654a (9/79)



Highlights of the February 1982 Benefit Payment Issuance Survey

Aid Payments Issued

- Six out of seven (85.9 percent) aid payments issued were for AFDC-FG/U, while only one in thirty-three (2.99 percent) were issued for Foster Care.
- The most common method of issuing payments was through the main payroll process (87.8 percent) at an average reported cost of \$1.87 per payment. The least common method was immediate need payroll process (1.9 percent) at an average reported cost of \$7.97 per payment.
- More than one quarter of the households that received Food Stamps were mailed the food stamp coupons directly.

Payments Held and Payments Cancelled

- Less than one percent of the payments issued were pulled to make address changes.
- More than 20,000 payments were cancelled in February. More than half of those cancelled had been printed but never mailed.

Mailing of Payments

- Less than one percent of the payments issued were returned by the post office. Most frequently those payments returned were remailed. Least often payments were cancelled and reissued.
- Nearly all (94.4 percent) of the counties mail other documents with the payments. Over half include the CA-7.

Lost, Stolen or Destroyed Payments

- Only one in two hundred payments were reported as lost, stolen or destroyed. Of those, an affidavit of loss was filed on 92.2 percent of the payments.
- Of those payments replaced after an affidavit was signed, it was discovered that both the original and the replacement were paid in less than one in fifty.
- More than 80 percent of the counties place stop payments on lost, stolen or destroyed payments before a replacement is issued.